

# The Transcript

W. SCOTT WAY, Editor & Proprietor

\$200 A YEAR, IN ADVANCE.

To Correspondents.—Communications on topics of local interest are always welcome but to insure insertion they must be brief and to the point. We do not accept or respond to any views of correspondence. Anonymous articles will receive no attention. Address all communications to the Proprietor.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON, FEB. 23, 1883.

PEACH TREES are in bloom in South Carolina.

THE LATE WILLIAM E. DODGE bequeathed over \$300,000 to charitable institutions.

THE Connecticut Legislature is spending its time on a bill for the protection of the "Bird of Freedom."

TRE RIVER is falling steadily at Cincinnati and the outlook is more cheerful. Five square miles of the city have been under water.

THE FLOODS at Frankfort, Kentucky, carried away about three hundred barrels of whisky. This is one instance, at least, when water proved itself stronger than whisky.

THE New Jersey Senate concurrent resolution to adopt a prohibitory amendment to the State constitution came to a final vote in the House of Representatives, on Wednesday, and was defeated.

TRouble prevails in the New York metropolitan at Sing Sing. Two hundred and thirty convicts are locked in their cells for refusing to work, and a number of serious affrays have occurred in the prison.

BILL has been introduced in the New York Assembly providing for punishment at the whipping-post for wife and child beating. The "relic of barbarism" seems to be growing in popular favor at the North.

BILL NYE, the entertaining humorist of the Laramie "Boomerang," is still in poor health, and he has gone to Colorado to recuperate. The trouble with William is, he has been living too high since he started a newspaper.

KING KALAKAUKA, of the Hawaiian Islands, was crowned, with imposing ceremonies on the 12th instant. Nearly everybody on the island attended the show and all was as merry as a dinner bell. "Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown," but a king who don't take off his crown when he goes to bed is a fool.

THE Newark Ledger has "heard a gentleman remark" that "the abolition of the pillory and whipping-post would do more to bring immigrants to Delaware than all the immigration commissioners that could be appointed." But Delaware doesn't want the sort of immigrants that are afraid of her pillory and whipping-post.

"How It Was Done," is the title of a very useful little book of political statistics published by the Passenger Department of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad. It contains many tables that all who take an interest in political affairs will find of much value to them. A copy of the book will be sent free to all who write for it to Mr. C. K. Lord, Baltimore, Md.

ANOTHER Disaster, with great loss of life, is added to the already long list of the year. The ground over a coal mine, near Braidwood, Illinois, caved in last Friday afternoon and caused the death of eighty-five men and boys. The prairie, under which the mine was situated, was covered with water. The water softened the soil, causing it to cave, and the mine was deluged. The wives and children of many of the men who had lost their lives gathered about the shaft after the disaster, and the scenes there were truly pitiful.

We learn from good authority that a bill providing for an increase of representation for New Castle county, thus days are introduced in the Legislature. The bill will provide for five additional Representatives from this county, thus increasing the membership of the House to twenty-six, and will also probably provide for increasing the Senate to twelve, four from each county. This seems to us to be about the fair thing for New Castle county to ask for, and about as much as she can hope to get. Such an increase, we believe, will give general satisfaction in this section of the country.

THE Longfellow Memorial Association is endeavoring to provide a suitable memorial to the poet near his old home. The heirs of Mr. Longfellow have made a generous gift of the piece of land opposite the house in which the poet lived, which was kept open during his lifetime that he might have a free view of the Charles river and the hills beyond. The Association is endeavoring to build there a memorial to the poet and keep the place forever open to the public. The contribution of education in Delaware: "After an experience of eight years, we are brought face to face with the fact that the schools of Delaware will never attain to that degree of excellence and importance they so justly deserve, and to which all earnest educational workers hope they may, unless a sufficient amount of money is contributed to properly conduct them. Our schools need earnest teachers, and such cannot be secured unless they are paid. Already more than half of our male teachers and very many female teachers have left the school room to seek more remunerative employment, because of the meager salaries paid. Thus our schools are losing, in many cases, the talent they possessed, and are not offering any inducement to the growing talent in our midst. It is with great difficulty that our schools can be supplied at this time with teachers. This is a vital matter, that must be met now, or it will possibly be too late to retrieve the loss to our children. The

doesn't seem to understand the people of this country. He appears to think we ought to be satisfied with almost anything in the way of a storm. But Professor Wiggins is mistaken. If he cannot forecast anything bigger than a mediocre storm—anything more exciting than a two-for-a-cent sort of cyclone—he may as well find out now, before he is again subjected to grievous disappointment, that our people are going to complain. Weather prophets can't expect these United States with the expectation of a storm on a scale commensurate with a great and glorious and internally well-taxed nation, and then send along a single second-hand snow squall and expect to go unbuked. We hope that Professor Wiggins will now understand that this nation is not to be trifled with in the matter of storm-predictions.

## SUPERINTENDENT GROVES' REPORT.

Superintendent Groves' report on the condition of our Free Schools, for the year ending December 1, 1882, is encouraging in some respects, but it does not seem to show that we are making that progress that we should make in this vital matter of popular education. While there has been since 1880 an increase in the number of white children between the ages of six and twenty-one, there has been a heavy decrease in the number enrolled. The amount of money contributed by districts for school purposes has, too, fallen below that contributed in 1880, though the increase in the State appropriation more than made up the deficiency. Professor Groves, in his report, writes encouragingly of the condition of our schools. He says that "while there has been no rapid growth there has been improvement in several directions," and "while it has not been rapid, it has," he believes, "been substantial and permanent." Within the last few years public sentiment has undergone a very remarkable change. Very many who, a few years ago, were apparently opposed to the Free School system, are now numbered among its hearty supporters." In the course of their official visits during the year, the Superintendents, in the great majority of cases, found the teachers "endeavoring faithfully to discharge their duties, working hard and in the best interests of the State." The one thing lacking was the "hearty co-operation of parents and school commissioners." It is highly important, the Superintendent well says, that "school commissioners in each district should be working men, ready to labor in season and out of season to promote the interests of the schools, whether paid or not for their services." And now comes a passage from the Superintendent's report that is chock full of truth: "Although teachers, parents and school officers can do much to further our educational interests, yet a period has now been reached, in the history of our State, when any marked improvement must be looked for from another direction. Our Legislature should broadly and firmly the foundation of a better system—a system that will furnish an effective safeguard against the evils of ignorance, despotism and bigotry, and enable our citizens to keep up with the progress and advancement of the times; in short, a system that will send out into the world our sons and daughters with minds well developed." These words will be of great value to them all who write for it to Mr. C. K. Lord, Baltimore, Md.

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time truly is past when we can measure the services of men and women, who have given their time and money to fit them for proper instructors of youth, with those of the farm laborer."

## PUBLIC SCHOOL STATISTICS.

The Seventh Annual Report of the Superintendent of Free Schools of Delaware, recently issued, is worthy the careful perusal of all friends of popular education. From the statistical summary contained in the report it is seen that the whole number of school districts in the State is 404, and the whole number of schools 515, a decrease of one since the report of 1880. The average number of months taught in 1882 was 7.8, an increase of .27. The whole number of white children between the ages of six and twenty-one was 33,133, an increase of 1,628, while the whole number of white children enrolled in 1882 was 23,450, a decrease of 1,003.

The average number of white children belonging to each district was 62, a gain of 4. The average number of pupils in each school district was 44, a decrease of five. The average daily attendance of white pupils in each school district was 30, and the average cost per pupil on number enrolled was \$6.85. The number of teachers in the State, including Wilmington, in 1882 was 545, an increase of nine, and they received an average monthly salary of \$30.94, an increase of \$1.53. The average monthly salary of the male teachers was \$35.87, an increase of \$5.04; and the average monthly salary of the female teachers was \$26.01, an increase of \$1.22. The whole number of teacher certificates issued was 396, a decrease of 27, and the whole number of permits issued was 99, a decrease of 10. The amount contributed in 1882 by districts for the support of public schools was \$144,552.31, a decrease since 1880 of \$45,625.63, while the whole amount of the State appropriation in 1882 was \$37,207.53, an increase of \$10,600.58. The decrease in the amount contributed by districts is therefore balanced overbalanced \$4,147.95 by the increase in the State appropriation. The whole amount paid to teachers in 1882 was \$139,661.50, an increase of \$1,539.50, and the total cost of education in 1882 was \$173,215.17. The total value of school buildings was \$340,515.00, an increase of \$9,255.00; total value of school grounds, \$76,500, an increase of \$831.00; total value of school furniture was \$36,259.00, an increase of \$4,754.00. The total value of school property in 1882 was therefore \$453,269.00, an increase of \$12,486.00. The number of schools under management in 1882 was 229. During the year the State Superintendents made 411 visits, and five public educational meetings were held.

## SMALL-POX IN CHESTERTOWN.

Since our last issue there have been fourteen cases of small-pox and fifteen deaths reported in Chestertown. The reason for this unexpected spread, is that the disease struck a portion of the town where the colored population is dense, in some cases as many as ten or fifteen crowded in one small house. Among the fourteen cases there were two or three white people. William Cannon, who was the steward, was taken in the early part of last week, but did not have a doctor till Friday, when his case was far gone that he died on Saturday afternoon. Mr. Cannon was one of those who believed in vaccination, and persistently refused to allow himself to be vaccinated. He was open in the expression of his opinion that vaccination did not do any thing, anything. He has died without the aid of a physician, as the physicians think that his case would at least have been only a varioloid if he had been vaccinated.

Mr. R. W. Mosher, wholesale druggist, of Chestertown, writes Messrs. E. & C. Co., proprietors of the Temperance Hotel, to Mr. Guilloyle's declaration, that he has no smallpox in his establishment. The manager of the Temperance Hotel, Mr. Guilloyle, is a son of George Guilloyle, proprietor of the Temperance Hotel, and is a man of great reputation. Mr. Guilloyle's declaration, that he has no smallpox in his establishment, is a relief to the community.

Two YOUNG COLTS, very promising.

## 9 MILK COWS,

Some with Calves by the side others in profit by day of sale. These are worthy the attention of those wishing to purchase.

## 2 YOKES OF OXEN

well broken, good workers. 1 very large Bull, 1 YARDHORN, 6 head. 1 very large CATTLE. 1 Fine SHOATS, Chester Whites.

## ONE PAIR OF FIVE LARGE MULES.

These Mules are good workers and fast walkers.

## 2 YOKES OF HORSES,

Some of which are fine drivers; three of them good Breakers, now 2 foot, and one with a wooden saddle, four months old.

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